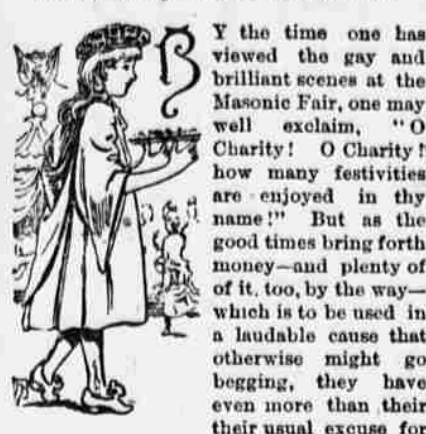


## MAY LAST TILL CHRISTMAS.

A PROPOSITION TO CONTINUE THE MASONIC FAIR AN EXTRA WEEK.

Eager, bustling throngs ever passing in and out—Next Received One Minute and sold the Next—The Restaurant Making \$100 a Day—Punch and Judy Shows and Musical Entertainments—At the Polls.



Y the time one has viewed the gay and brilliant scenes at the Masonic Fair, one may well exclaim, "O Charity! O Charity! how many festivities have been enjoyed in thy name!" But as the good times bring forth money and plenty of it, too, by the way, which is to be used in a laudable cause that otherwise might go begging, they have even more than their usual excuse for being.

Seeing the eager, bustling throngs of people constantly passing in and out, a stranger might suppose that last night was the first of the fair and never for a moment imagine that just such crowds had attended the merry, money-making entertainment every night for the past two weeks and would, in all probability, for two weeks to come.

But so it is, and although the closing time was at one time fixed for Dec. 17, it was changed, in the building, to take a chance and continued to be made in such numbers and purchasers were so plentiful that the managers had decided that the fair should not become a thing of the past until the night before Christmas. This seems a little hard on the "dear girls" who since the opening have caused many hearts to flutter and, ergo, so many pockets to be lightened of their contents, but, as one of them (the girls, of course) said last night, "It is only six days longer than we thought, you know, and I guess we can stand it."

And then, the nervous, half-forgetful, delightful manner, she took hold of the young man's coat with her little hands, looked at him with her big eyes, and in an appealing voice said: "You take a chance, don't you?" It sounded so much like "Don't you love me?" that the young man was at first involuntarily inclined to press matters, but he didn't. He just put his hand into his pocket, drew out \$1, and, almost before he realized it, had become the possessor of one chance in the draw for a stove.

But the fair vendors of chances don't waste time in talking to him, for he does not buy and he who receives a minute must pay for it. The principal booths are still on the first or main floor and the many contributions which are constantly being received cause the large rooms to take on an ever changing appearance. Articles are received one minute and sold the next, and what is most strange, and can be bought at very reasonable prices.

In one of the chapter rooms Punch and Judy, under the direction of Prof. Campbell, are performing three shows in an entertainment, nightly. Their repertoire last night included "The Persecuted Dutchman," "The Persecuted Cobbler," and "Who Stole the Goose."

On the third floor is the smoking-room, and here it is that those who have invested "not wisely but too well" come and with depleted pockets proceed to refill their cares away from the world, and the elevator takes them to the fifth floor the association of a thriving restaurant business, the receipts from which have at no time since the commencement of the fair fallen below \$100 per day. Here, too, the prices are low and one can get a sirloin steak for half a dollar or a plate of ice cream for 15 cents. The restaurant is most admirably managed by Mrs. H. H. Brinkley, who is well supported by a corps of able assistants consisting of Mrs. S. L. Terhune, Mrs. M. Van Buren, Mrs. Day and Miss Tillie Munroe. To reach the restaurant one must go to the elevator, for which, it is announced, "there is positively no charge."

Opposite to the room on the same floor as the restaurant is the concert room, in which last night a classical concert was given in the presence of a goodly audience. The concert consisted in the rendering of well-known music by the piano by Herman, C. Korthner, on the violin by Louis, and on the cello by George Werrenath, the tenor. Saturday night will be the red letter for the concert-room, for by the courtesy of Mr. Henry E. Abbey the management of the company will be heard. The management expect that the following artists will take part in the entertainment: Mr. Theo. Bjorksten, tenor; Mr. J. H. Korthner, violin; Mr. F. E. McMillen, piano; Mr. Oswald, baritone; Miss Nettle Carpenter, violin; Miss Nettle Carpenter, violin; Mr. S. L. Terhune, conductor.

At the polls the interest is as great as ever, and the pluralities are ever varying. Last night the pluralities were as follows: For the city clerk, the Rev. Dr. R. MacArthur is a few votes ahead of his nearest competitor, C. S. Shaver is away ahead in the contest, F. E. McMillen, second, and in the contest for the most popular member of the lodge and is likely to get the jewel. H. S. Hornum is the popular Master. Rebecca at the Well and Miss L. L. L. are close competitors for the diamond earrings. Mrs. E. B.

Harper, at the polls, is the most popular Master Mason's wife, and Joseph Britton seems likely to take the sword of popularity from other Commanders of New York and Brooklyn. E. E. Van Buren will probably be elected Junior Warden, and The Woman still maintains its lead in popularity over all other papers.

WHERE THEY BEAT THEIR GRANDAMS.

Scrap-Box Pictures Made in Incredible Quantities for Children Novadaya.

RANDMOTHERS of today are sometimes seen in conjunction with a "scrap-box." This is, presumably, a receptacle for "scraps." But it is not of so much interest in its uses as it is in the antique and simple art which has sought to add ornament to the unpretentious exterior of a plain square box.

Small woodcuts representing anything the fancy can conceive have been cut out of magazines and "picture papers" by the grandmothers' scissors and conscientiously stuck upon this pine-wood box. Then the box is painted and is ready for use. Her art sense was so good.

Children of this favored hour can "see their grandams and go them one better" in the scrap-boxes. The manufacturers of Christmas cards and other lithographic pictures print small objects by the hundred, all different from all the others, can be bought for 50 cents.

The animal kingdom, the realm of flowers, small landscapes, with pictures humorous or sentimental, have been the inventor. In one house which prints this sort of thing more than seven hundred workmen are employed. They are trained to the work from childhood. The artist's hand is the work of a day.

A Nassau street dealer who handles them has sent these tiny "scrap pictures" to the four quarters of the world. Young ones in Australia, small droll-faced Chinese babies, dusky children of India, and even a small connoisseur amuse themselves with these scraps.

One year the dealer received nearly forty thousand of them. Of course, he advertised a good deal and carries a large stock, but the number of these small pictures bought is almost incredible. This is the kindergarten for children. They learn to select the ones they like best, and their imagination is stimulated, besides being kept out of mischief and finding amusement.

It is a great scheme, a good deal of money is made by it and a good many children are made happy.

NEWS ABOUT WORKINGMEN.

Walters generally complain of dull times and a lack of employment.

Pianomakers and furniture and woodworkers are busy and few of them are out of work.

Reports from the Interior indicate that 5,000 cigar makers are out of work.

It is estimated that 4,000 of the Subway laborers are idle and likely to remain so until next spring.

Union waters are moving to stop the blacklisting campaign by the Park and Ballroom Proprietors Association.

Bricklayers and plasterers are very busy. Carpenters are completing a lack of work, but not for better times after the holidays.

Of the 30,000 men engaged in the harbor as freight handlers, boatmen and stevedores, 15,000 are idle and likely to remain so until next spring.

Union waters are moving to stop the blacklisting campaign by the Park and Ballroom Proprietors Association.

Work is plentiful in the clothing trade, and it is estimated that 15,000 men are engaged in the making of all kinds of wearing apparel. Much of the labor is done in tenement house work-rooms on the East Side.

The pamphlet issued by the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America discussing the question of amalgamation with the United Order of American Mechanics and Joiners, and giving correspondence between the two bodies, has not been replied to, nor is it likely to be. The organization of the United Order of American Mechanics and Joiners is a matter which will be required to recognize the cards of the Brotherhood.

A Second Avenue Incident.

Gamin—Wot's der matter, Fiddler?

Fiddler—My beebal rolled through der fence, 'n' der gate's locked!

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